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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

IMPROVEMENTS IN RUMANIAN COAL PRODUCTION

[Comment: On 4 July 1952 the Council of Ministers of the Rumanian People's Republic issued a decree providing for improvements in the coal mining industry. During August 1952 Bucharest newspapers reported successes achieved in the industry in regard to new equipment, greater production, and new methods. On 26 August 1952 Scanteia reported that the Ministry of Petroleum and Coal Industries had been divided into the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Industries and the Ministry of Coal Industry.

The following items on improvements in coal mining appeared in Scanteia and Viata Capitalei during August 1952.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.⁷

Gheorghe Covaci, Assistant Minister of Petroleum and Coal Industries, declared in an article in Viata Capitalei on 9 August that Rumanian coal production was 17.9 percent greater in 1951 than in 1950 and that coal production at the end of 1951 was double that of 1938. He stated that coal production in 1952 had increased still more, and that new equipment received from the USSR and the People's Democracies had permitted the reopening of mines formerly considered unprofitable. Among the new equipment, Covaci listed electric and diesel mine locomotives, scrapers, screw lifts, bucket loaders, pneumatic hammers, electric drills, and automatic combines. He added that new cutting and loading machines were successfully tried out in the Valea Jiului coal mines and in lignite mines. As a result, underground mechanization increased 66 percent, underground transport 85 percent, and surface transport 95 percent, he concluded.⁽¹⁾

- 1 -

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Scanteia of 5 August reported that mine brigades in Vulcan, in the Petrosani coal fields, had fulfilled plans with the aid of recently received equipment. (2) The newspaper reported on 8 August that productivity was increased at the Leordo mine in Petrila by a Decauville line which transports mine timbers to the mine and hauls coal to central storage bins. The mine also has new underground cars, mechanical cranes, and electrical equipment, the paper added. (3)

On 3 August, Scanteia reported that master Gheorghe Svistea had introduced a new slogan at Lupeni, "No miner under the norm: More coal for the fatherland! More coal for peace!" (4) To achieve this aim, Svistea suggested the combined use of all Soviet and Rumanian Stakhanovite techniques. As a result of the slogan, pledges for more work were made at Jieti-Lonea in Petrosani, (5) at Petrila, at Lupeni, Comanesti, and in the Valea Jiului. (6)

Scanteia reported on 17 August that miners' wages rose significantly in mines of the Valea Jiului during the first month of application of the decree of 4 July. This represented an added inducement toward greater production, the newspaper declared. Examples of individual wages under the new law were reported by Scanteia as follows: Petru Becsa, a miner of Petrila received 1,732 lei for 153 percent fulfillment of his norms in July. Of this sum, 566.29 lei was prize money for overfulfillment and 185 lei was for fulfillment of norms by his brigade. Brigade leader Alexandru David of Petrila received 1,851 lei for July. Brigade leaders Ioan Artz, Gheorghe Croitoru, Nicolae Mat, Grigore Siller, Ioan Balas, and others received 1,500-3,000 lei for July. At Aninoasa, brigade leader Petru Borodi received 1,811.24 lei, and Stakhanovite Francisc Bodo, who fulfilled his coal quota 127 percent, received 1,154.23 lei. (7)

Evidence of progress in coal mining was the establishment of a Higher Institute for Coal, to train engineers, Scanteia of 9 August stated. In addition, the article continued, intermediate technical schools had been established at principal mining centers, and 200 schools had been set up to prepare grade I, II, and III miners. (8)

Production achievements as a result of new measures adopted were reported in August issues of Scanteia at the following mines:

Mine	Plan Period	Degree of Fulfillment	Source
Sorecani State Coal Enterprise	Jul 52	103.4 percent	(9)
Sorecani State Coal Enterprise	To be completed by 23 Aug (Rumanian Liberation Day)	100 "	(10)
Curturis mine	23 Aug	157.75 "	(10)
Ticu mine	23 Aug	128.08 "	(10)
Surduc mine	23 Aug	117.24 "	(10)
Tamasa mine	23 Aug	115 "	(10)
Bagara mine (individual teams working on 1953 quotas)	--	--	(9)
7 Noembrie mine (individual teams working on 1953 quotas)	--	--	(9)

- 2 -

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50X1-HUM

<u>Mine</u>	<u>Plan Period</u>	<u>Degree of Fulfillment</u>	<u>Source</u>
Resita			
Lupac coal mine	Jul 52	102.8 percent	(11)
Lupac coal mine	1 Jan - 31 Jul 52	116.2 "	(11)
Comanesti			
Rafira mine (plan for conservation of explosives and mine timbers)	--	100 "	(6)
Valea Trostului	Jul 52	102.67 "	(3)
Lumina mine	Jul 52	100 "	(3)
Valea Jiului			
Petrila (plan of one brigade)	Jul 52	683 tons above plan	(3)
Petrila (plan of one brigade)	Jul 52	555 tons above plan	(3)
Lupeni (several brigades)	Jul 52	4.5 cycles above plan	(3)
Vulcan (several brigades)	Jul 52	1,305 tons above plan	(3)
Aninoasa (several brigades)	Jul 52	Overfulfillment	(3)

SOURCES

1. Viata Capitalei, 9 Aug 52
2. Scanteia, 5 Aug 52
3. Ibid., 7 Aug 52
4. Ibid., 3 Aug 52
5. Ibid., 15 Aug 52
6. Ibid., 7 Aug 52
7. Ibid., 17 Aug 52
8. Ibid., 9 Aug 52
9. Ibid., 12 Aug 52
10. Ibid., 1 Aug 52, 21 Aug 52
11. Ibid., 6 Aug 52

- E N D -

- 3 -

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